



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD
20737

Public Hearing on APHIS's Proposed Revision of its Fruits and Vegetables Regulations

Seattle, Washington

May 23, 2006

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Registration begins 30 minutes prior to scheduled start

**Seattle Renaissance Hotel
515 Madison Street
Seattle, Washington**

Representatives of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will preside at the public hearing, and will provide a short overview of the rule. Any interested person may appear and be heard in person, by attorney, or by other representative. Written statements may be submitted and will be made part of the hearing record. A transcript of this public hearing and others related to the proposed rule will be placed in the rulemaking record and will be available for public inspection, including on the internet at www.aphis.usda.gov and regulations.gov.

The purpose of the hearing is to give interested persons an opportunity for presentation of data, views, and arguments. Questions about the content of the proposed rule may be part of the commenters' oral presentations. However, neither the presiding officer nor any other representative of APHIS will respond to comments at the hearing, except to clarify or explain provisions of the proposed rule.

The presiding officer may limit the time for each presentation so that all interested persons appearing at each hearing have an opportunity to participate. Each hearing may be terminated at any time if all persons desiring to speak and that are present in the hearing room have been heard.

Registration for the hearings may be accomplished by registering with the presiding officer 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of each hearing. Persons who wish to speak at a hearing will be asked to sign in with their name and organization to establish a record for the hearing. We request that anyone who reads a statement provide two copies to the presiding officer at the hearing.



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Persons wishing to speak at one or more of the public hearings may register in advance by phone or e-mail. Persons wishing to register by phone should call the Regulatory Analysis and Development voice mail at (301) 734-8138. Callers must leave a message clearly stating:

1. The location of the hearing the registrant wishes to speak at,
2. The registrant's name and organization

Persons wishing to register by e-mail must send an e-mail with the same information described above to ppq.public.hearings@aphis.usda.gov. Please write the location of the hearing you wish to attend in the subject line. Advance registration for the hearings must be received by 3 p.m. on the day prior to the hearing you wish to attend.

Additional information on the proposed rule and public hearings can be found on the internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/Q56>.

Directions to Hearing Site

Renaissance Seattle Hotel
Seattle-Tacoma-SEA
(206) 583-0300

WA 518 East from the airport for 2.8 miles. Merge onto I-5 N via the exit on the LEFT toward SEATTLE. I-5 N for 9.8 miles. Take the I-5 N exit on the LEFT toward MADISON ST / CONVENTION CENTER / VANCOUVER BC. Take the MADISON ST. exit. LEFT onto Madison Street. Continue on Madison Street to 5th Avenue (passing the hotel) and turn LEFT onto 5th. One block to Marion Street. LEFT onto Marion one block, then LEFT onto 6th Avenue to hotel entrance at corner of 6th and Madison.